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SENATE BILL 822

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Steve Komadina

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; PROVIDING THAT LOTTERY TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS BE AVAILABLE TO ALL RESIDENT FULL-TIME STUDENTS WHO MAINTAIN A CERTAIN GRADE POINT AVERAGE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 21-1-4.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996, Chapter 71, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"21-1-4.3. TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS AUTHORIZED-- CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. --

A. To the extent that funds are made available by the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the boards of regents of New Mexico state university, New Mexico institute of mining and technology, eastern New Mexico university, western New Mexico university, the university of New Mexico, New Mexico highlands university and northern New Mexico state school shall

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1 award tuition scholarships for qualified resident students
2 attending their respective institutions and branches of those
3 institutions.

4 B. Except as authorized in Subsection C of this
5 section, the tuition scholarships authorized in this section
6 shall apply only to full-time resident students who
7 ~~[immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a~~
8 ~~public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon~~
9 ~~receiving a graduate equivalent diploma]~~ are accepted for
10 entrance to and attend one of the state educational
11 institutions set forth in this section or one of the branches
12 of those institutions. Each tuition scholarship shall be
13 awarded for up to four consecutive years beginning the second
14 semester of the recipient's first year of enrollment, provided
15 that the recipient has maintained residency in New Mexico and
16 maintained a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0
17 scale during his first semester of full-time enrollment.

18 C. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
19 section shall also apply to full-time resident students who
20 ~~[immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a~~
21 ~~public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon~~
22 ~~receiving a graduate equivalent diploma]~~ attend a two-year
23 public post-secondary educational institution in New Mexico and
24 who, upon the completion of that curriculum or at the end of
25 two years, whichever is sooner, transfer to one of the post-

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1 secondary state educational institutions set forth in this
2 section. Those students shall be eligible for a tuition
3 scholarship for two consecutive years, provided that those
4 students maintain residency in New Mexico, maintain a grade
5 point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale and attend the
6 institution full time during the regular academic year.

7 ~~[D. The tuition scholarships authorized in this~~
8 ~~section shall also apply to full-time resident students who:~~

9 ~~(1) within one hundred twenty days of~~
10 ~~completion of a high school curriculum at a public or~~
11 ~~accredited private New Mexico high school, or of receiving a~~
12 ~~graduate equivalent diploma, begin service in the United States~~
13 ~~armed forces; and~~

14 ~~(2) within one hundred twenty days of~~
15 ~~completion of honorable service or medical discharge from the~~
16 ~~service are accepted for entrance to and attend one of the~~
17 ~~state educational institutions set forth in this section.~~

18 ~~E.]~~ D. The commission on higher education shall
19 prepare guidelines setting forth explicit student continuing
20 eligibility criteria and guidelines for administration of the
21 tuition scholarship program. Guidelines shall be distributed
22 to the board of regents of each institution to enable a uniform
23 availability of the resident student tuition scholarships. "

24 Section 2. Section 21-13-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963,
25 Chapter 17, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:

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1 "21-13-10. BOARD DUTIES. --

2 A. It is the duty of the community college board to
3 determine financial and educational policies of the community
4 college. The community college board shall provide for the
5 management of the community college and execution of these
6 policies by selecting a competent president for the community
7 college, and, upon the president's recommendation, the board
8 shall employ other administrative personnel, instructional
9 staff or other personnel as may be needed for the operation,
10 maintenance and administration of the community college.

11 B. The community college board shall have the power
12 to fix tuition and fee rates for resident and nonresident
13 students of the community college district, to accept gifts, to
14 accept federal aid, to purchase, hold, sell and rent property
15 and equipment and to promote the general welfare of the
16 institution for the best interest of educational service to the
17 people of the community college district.

18 C. To the extent that funds are made available by
19 the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the community
20 college board shall award tuition scholarships for qualified
21 resident students attending their respective institutions.

22 D. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
23 section shall apply only to full-time resident students who
24 [~~immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a~~
25 ~~public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon~~

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1 ~~receiving a graduate equivalent diploma~~ are accepted for
2 entrance to and attend a community college. Each tuition
3 scholarship shall be awarded for up to two consecutive years
4 beginning the second semester of the recipient's first year of
5 enrollment, provided that the recipient has maintained
6 residency in New Mexico and maintained a grade point average of
7 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale during his first semester of full-
8 time enrollment.

9 E. The commission on higher education shall prepare
10 guidelines setting forth explicit student continuing
11 eligibility criteria and guidelines for administration of the
12 tuition scholarship program. Guidelines shall be distributed
13 to community college boards to enable a uniform availability of
14 the resident student tuition scholarships. "

15 Section 3. Section 21-16-10.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
16 Chapter 71, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

17 "21-16-10.1. TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS AUTHORIZED. --

18 A. To the extent that funds are made available by
19 the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the board of a
20 technical and vocational institute shall award tuition
21 scholarships for qualified resident students attending a
22 technical and vocational institute.

23 B. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
24 section shall apply only to full-time resident students who
25 ~~[immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a~~

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1 ~~public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon~~
2 ~~receiving a graduate equivalent diploma]~~ are accepted for
3 entrance to and attend a technical and vocational institute.
4 Each tuition scholarship shall be awarded for up to two
5 consecutive years beginning the second semester of the
6 recipient's first year of enrollment, provided that the
7 recipient has maintained residency in New Mexico and maintained
8 a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale during
9 his first semester of full-time enrollment with renewal of an
10 additional two years upon transfer.

11 C. The commission on higher education shall prepare
12 guidelines setting forth explicit student continuing
13 eligibility criteria and guidelines for administration of the
14 tuition scholarship program. Guidelines shall be distributed
15 to the boards of technical and vocational institutes to enable
16 a uniform availability of the resident student tuition
17 scholarships. "